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TORREYA

May, 1904

A CANOE TRIP ON THE ST. FRANCIS RIVER,
NORTHERN MAINE

By W. W. EGGLESTON

The first week in August, 1902, found a small gathering of New England botanists at Rivière du Loup, Quebec, although the meeting was all unplanned on their part.

When I left the St. Lawrence steamer the hotel porter said "two men have just taken the steamer with packs like yours; they are coming back in a couple of days." The register showed M. L. Fernald and E. F. Williams. The next steamer brought Judge J. R. Churchill, who was easily persuaded to stay over a day when he found that *Dryopteris fragrans* Schott could be seen at Rivière du Loup Falls.

The next night I was routed out about eleven o'clock, but one could easily forgive Merritt Fernald when he proposed a trip on the St. Francis. This stream was first explored by C. G. Pringle in the 70's. In Pringle's time the only railroad in the country was the Intercolonial on the St. Lawrence; now the Temiscouata railroad runs from Rivière du Loup to Edmundston on the St. John River and then up the St. John to the mouth of the St. Francis.

This was the route Fernald and I took. At St. Francis we secured canoes and guides and were carried ten miles to the foot of Glazier Lake, the end of wagon roads.

The expedition started very favorably, for what New England botanist would not have good luck with William Oakes as principal guide. Such was the fact, and a good guide, canoe-man and cook was W. Oakes.

Our trip from the foot of Glazier Lake up the St. Francis was to include about fifteen miles of lakes and twenty-five miles of "strong water," as the guides called it, to Boundary Lake,

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Quebec. We were now entering a great wilderness. The St. John river valley is cleared up to St. Francis and there is one village, Allegash Plantation, fifteen miles above St. Francis; outside of the St. John valley proper one may go from twenty-five to two hundred miles to the nearest house.

On the St. Francis, at the foot of Glazier Lake, there are two or three farms, at the head of the lake two more; ten miles up the river, at the head of Beau Lac, are three more settlers; and thence twenty-five miles to Boundary Lake are no settlers. Most of the settlers, both on the St. Francis and the St. John, have come in since Pringle's time.

By our landing at Glazier Lake was plenty of *Salix lucida intonsa* Fernald. This salix would be easily mistaken for a very large *Salix candida* Willd. On the Maine side is the type station for *Carex intumescens Fernaldi* Bailey; here also we saw *Carex atratiformis* Britton, four feet high.

We left Glazier Lake at noon, making Glazier Lake, Cross Lake and Cross Lake Rapids before supper, paddling up the six miles of Beau Lac and reaching the head of the lake after dark. We pitched our tent on the sands, rolled up in our blankets, and most of us went to sleep, but the greenhorn, wedged in between friend and guide, found a hole and hummock that would not let him sleep. The next day at noon we were at the foot of the Kelly Rapids, which are three miles long and full of boulders. The guide gave us an invitation to walk; we accepted and botanized the Maine shore to the head of the rapids, finding great quantities of *Peranium ophioides* (Fernald) Rydb., *P. tessellatum* (Lodd.) Rydb., *Lysiella obtusata* (Pursh) Rydb., *Lysias orbiculata* (Pursh) Rydb., *Hypopitys Hypopitys* (L.) Small, *Petasites palmata* (Ait.) A. Gray and my first *Listera auriculata* Wiegand.

We camped early this night, pitching our tent on the Quebec shore in a thicket of evergreens.

The next morning all about our camp we found *Pyrola asarifolia* Michx. and *P. minor* L. and in a spring bog *Listera auriculata* Wiegand (in flower).

On a Maine blueberry barren we found *Pyrola rotundifolia* L., *Aster junceus* Ait., and great quantities of *Vaccinium Cana-*

dense, blackflies, and midgets ; we soon decided that the latter had preëmpted the region and made a hasty change of base. By noon we were at the foot of Boundary Lake and the iron boundary post, the most northern point of Maine.

Here we found *Eatonia Pennsylvanica* (DC.) A. Gray, *Panicularia laxa* Scribn., *Grapphephorum melicoideum* (Michx.) Beauv., *Chaetochloa viridis* (L.) Scribn., *Carex atratiformis* Britton, *Streptopus amplexifolius* (L.) DC., *Sanguisorba Canadensis* L., *Capnoides sempervirens* (L.) Borck., *Mentha Canadensis glabrata* Benth., *Vio'la septentrionalis* Greene, *Tetragonanthus deflexus* (J. E. Smith) Kuntze, *T. deflexus heteranthus* (Griseb.) Britton (one plant), *Virburnum pauciflorum* Pylaie, *Erigeron acris* L., *Solidago hispida* Muhl., *Euphrasia Canadensis* Townsend, and *Tanacetum Huronense* Nutt.

We hoped to find *Isoetes hieroglyphica* A. A. Eaton, *Selaginella selaginoides* (L.) Link, and a red-flowered *Castalia*. The wind was so high that afternoon and the next day that botanizing on the lake was out of the question.

Boundary Lake extends north and south about nine miles. In Pringle's day from the foot of the lake five miles up the west shore was an unbroken forest ; now it is all cultivated land, and the "mossy shore under cedars" where Pringle found *Selaginella selaginoides* is now the location of a thriving saw mill, sawing the cedars. Incidentally, all of the logs driven in the St. Francis and the upper St. John and most of the timber used in houses is the white cedar, *Thuja occidentalis* L. The next morning, turning our backs on the wind-swept shores of Boundary Lake and red pond lilies, we started down the river. This was the most delightful part of the trip. Running along noiselessly and using the paddle but for steering, we saw several deer but no moose, although we had seen many of their tracks.

Down the river a few miles on the Maine shore were some quite large lagoons and a great marsh ; here were *Carex arcta* Boott, *Nymphaea advena variegata*, *Nymphaea hybrida* Peck, *Nymphaea Kalmiana* (Michx.) Sims, *Rhamnus alnifolia* L'Her., *Hippurus vulgaris* L., *Myriophyllum alterniflorum* DC., etc. Thus far, trout-fishing had been very poor but this morning we had some fine sport.

At night we were at our old camp at the head of Beau Lac. In the alluvial woods *Aster hirsuticaulis* Lindl. was abundant. The lake in lower water would have been fine botanizing, but *Isoetes* that ought to have been near the surface was in three or four feet of water. I spent over an hour wading up to my neck in the cold water, supposing I was getting *Isoetes hieroglyphica* A. A. Eaton, but Eaton tells me that out of some three hundred specimens all but about a dozen are *Isoetes echinospora Braunii* Engelm.

The marshy shores gave us *Listera convallarioides* Nutt. and *Carex intumescens Fernaldi* Bailey, and near Cross Lake Rapids was *Asarum Canadense* L. Our guide thought he could show us the red water lily in Glazier Lake. It proved to be *Polygonum amphibium* L. growing with *Sparganium simplex angustifolium* (Michx.) Engelm. and *Myriophyllum verticillatum* L. The little rocky islet in the St. John at the mouth of the St. Francis had *Poa glauca* Vahl., *Juncus Dudleyi* Wiegand, *J. Vaseyi* Engelm., *Allium Sibiricum* L., *Astragalus alpinus* L., *Lathyrus palustris* L., *Aragallus Johannensis* Rydb., *Vaccinium caespitosum* Michx., *Gentiana acuta* Michx., *G. linearis* Froel., *Castilleja acuminata* (Pursh.) Spreng., *Aster longifolius* Lam., *A. longifolius villicaulis* A. Gray, *A. radula* Ait., *Solidago squarrosa* Muhl., *Tanacetum Huronense* Nutt., etc. This proved the best botanizing ground of the trip.

RUTLAND, VERMONT.

SHORTER NOTES

NOTES ON THE LOCAL FLORA. — Specimens of *Dryopteris simulata* and of *Woodwardia angustifolia* were found in abundance near Quogue, L. I., last summer. This is the fifth station in New York for the first and the sixth for the second. Very near these stations were found plants of *Caltha radicans*. This may be the West Hampton station of Britton's Flora for the division between the towns was not more than a third of a mile away.

In a swamp at West Hampton were found specimens of *Lycopodium alopecuroides*. This is the third station for Long Island.

A few plants of *Asplenium pinnatifidum* were found by a friend, Mr. Huntington, a few summers ago at Sharon, Conn.